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Information

**Subject: Political Developments within
the Bulgarian Communist Party**

Report No:

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1. After CHERVENKOV's dismissal as president of the Council of Ministers, certain members of the Bulgarian Communist Party hoped that other political changes would be forthcoming. Among the leading exponents of this group were those communists who had been neutralized or harassed under CHERVENKOV's rule and those who had been constantly supervised and reprimanded in their work by CHERVENKOV. Included in this group were the following:

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- a. **Encho STAYKOV**: Editor-in-chief of various Party publications and director of the Bulgarian Telegraphic Agency. He was permanently under CHERVENKOV's direction and in 1954 was suspended by him from his position as Party secretary.

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- b. **Boyan BALGARANOV**: BALGARANOV occupied a high position in the Ministry of Defense until 1949 when he was released by CHERVENKOV because of his ties with Traicho KOSTOV. In 1950 he also lost his position as member of the Central Committee - a position he was not able to regain until 1954.

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2. **STAYKOV** and **BALGARANOV**, adherents of the national communists (Mestni), were spokesmen for this group in the Central Committee during the decisive moments leading to CHERVENKOV's dismissal. Other members of this group are Karlo LUKANOV and Slavcho TRANKI. To hasten a return to the normal, Anton YUGOV, the new president of the Council, assigned STAYKOV and BALGARANOV to the secretariat of the Party, thus raising the number of members from 3 to 5. The national communists hoped that with the removal of CHERVENKOV the Bulgarian Communist Party would be less under the influence of Moscow, but shortly after YUGOV's rise to power, he made it understood that this would not be the case. In one of his first speeches he stated that he would not tolerate any behavior which did not conform to Party discipline. From this statement, the Mestni were able to ascertain that YUGOV had gone over to the Moscovite side.

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